(b) whether there has been an outcry against this feature telecast on the 9th July, 2002;

(c) whether there have been objections against it as it hurts the sentiments of devotees;

(d) whether Government have lodged a protest against it; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes. The film on Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam was part of a six-episode series titled Business Bizarre.

(b) and (c) The series is reported to have received a positive response from viewers. The Government is not aware of any outcry against the feature. The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam authorities have formally conveyed their appreciation of the film to the film makers.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Anti-Indian activities in Neighbouring countries

†3034. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that regular training is being provided in countries adjoining India to terrorists in carrying out their terrorist activities against India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government propose to take against such countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c)

Pakistan

Pakistan has established an elaborate infrastructure for the recruitment; indoctrination and training of terrorists on its territories and territories under its control, to support its policy of sponsoring cross border terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir and other parts of India. Information

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

regarding terrorist infrastructure, in Pakistan and Pakistan controlled territories, for support to terrorism is appropriately shared with other countries as a part of the global efforts against international terrorism.

Government are determined and firmly committed to fight terrorism by all means until it is decisively crushed.

Bangladesh

The Government of India is aware of the reports that agencies, inimical to India's interests, including the ISI, are misusing the territory of Bangladesh for their anti-India activities.

The Government of India has been regularly taking up these security-related issues with Bangladesh at different levels through diplomatic channels and institutional mechanism existing between the two countries. The Government of Bangladesh has assured that it would not allow its territory to be used for activities inimical to India's interests. The Bangladesh foreign minister during his visit to India on 16-17 June, 2002 has informed of the decision taken at the highest level in the Government not to allow presence of Indian insurgents or their free movement across the border.

Myanmar

The Government is aware of reports that groups and organizations inimical to India's interests are misusing the territory of Myanmar for their activities. Most of groups are linked to members of North-East insurgent groups.

There are institutionalized mechanism where two countries interact regularly to address issues related to border management.

Nepal

Government is concerned about ISI misusing the Nepalese territories and the open India-Nepal border for activities inimical to India's interests and is seized of the matter.

There is close cooperation between Nepal and India on the issue of cross border terrorism. Both Governments have agreed that they would

not allow their territories to be used for activities inimical to each other. A bilateral institutional mechanism has also been evolved which includes a joint working group on border management and Home Secretary level talks. The special service bureau has been deployed along the border with Nepal to strengthen security in the border areas. The extradition arrangements between India and Nepal are presently governed by the Treaty of Extradition of 1953. The Government of India has proposed that the Treaty be updated and has handed over to His Majesty's Government of Nepal (HMGN) a model text of an updated Extradition Treaty.

Bhutan

The presence of ULFA, NDFB and KLO militants on Bhutanese territory has been a subject of discussion with the Government of Bhutan. The National Assembly of Bhutan adopted a series of Resolutions in 1999, 2000 and again in 2001 to control this menace. The extradition arrangements between India and Bhutan are governed by the Extradition Agreement signed between the two countries on May 20, 1997. Under this Agreement, India and Bhutan are committed to safeguarding each other's security and stability.

Grants to Centre for Research in Indo-Bangladesh Relations

3035. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have stopped grants to the Centre for Research on Indo-Bangladesh Relations (CRIBR), Kolkata, recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the names of such other organisations which are being funded by Government at present, alongwith quantum of grant and objectives being fulfilled by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes. The Government conducts periodic evaluations of the grants being made to the Centre. Accordingly, it was decided to reduce the annual grant in phases and finally terminate it.